## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-24. (Canceled)

25. (New) A computer system for managing data, the system comprising:

a memory storing historical data comprising continuously updated values for each of a plurality of metrics at a plurality of points in time; and

at least one computer configured to:

from one or more external sources, receive a continuous stream of event data for at least one of the metrics, wherein the event data is transmitted to and received by the at least one computer independent of a request from the computer,

in response to each received event data, calculate with the computer an actual value for at least one metric based at least in part on the event data, wherein the actual value is calculated based on a sliding time window,

in response to each received event data, automatically calculate with the computer an expected value for the at least one metric, wherein the expected value is calculated based on a sliding time window,

compare the expected value with the actual value, and

determine whether to generate an alert or action based on the comparison of the expected value and the actual value.

26. (New) The system according to claim 25, wherein the expected value is calculated in response to each received event data according to one or more of:

a time of the received event data,

data from the last hour,

data from the last x hours where x can be defined by an operator,

another metric in the system,

data from the last selected number of occurrences of a selected day of the week, where the selected day of the week is the day of the week of the received event data,

data from the last selected number of occurrences of a selected day of the month, where the selected day of the month is the day of the month of the received event data, and

data from the last selected number of occurrences of a selected day of the year, where the selected day of the year is the day of the year of the received event data.

27. (New) The system according to claim 25, wherein when calculating the expected value, the computer is configured to automatically replace historical statistical outliers with normal values or a metric received during the sliding time window, and wherein the metric can be defined by an operator.

28. (New) The system according to claim 25, wherein the at least one computer is arranged to store one or more rules for operating on at least one of the received event data, the actual value, the expected value, and the comparison of the actual value and the expected value and wherein a metric is part of the rules and the metric is defined by an operator.

29. (New) The system according to claim 25, wherein the at least one computer is arranged to store one or more alert definitions for causing a signal to be sent according to the rules, wherein criteria for the rules is determined either by a fixed value, or by a dynamic metric in the system.

30. (New) The system according to claim 29, wherein the at least one computer is arranged to send a message to a terminal selected based on the alert.

31. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the metrics are defined by an operator of the computer system.

32. (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising reporting the comparison of the expected value and the actual value.

33. (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising:

notifying one or more users of the computer system of the alert or action;

storing status information to reflect the priority of the alert or action;

storing information related to the alert or action;

storing status information after the action has been taken; and

correlating previous actions taken with performance and achievement of goals.

34. (New) The system according to claim 33, wherein the expected value is calculated in response to each received event data according to one or more of:

a time of the received data,

data from the last hour,

data from the last x hours where x can be defined by an operator,

another metric in the system,

data from the last selected number of occurrences of a selected day of the week, where the selected day of the week is the day of the week of the received event data,

data from the last selected number of occurrences of a selected day of the month, where the selected day of the month is the day of the month of the received event data, and

data from the last selected number of occurrences of a selected day of the year, where the selected day of the year is the day of the year of the received event data.

35. (New) The system according to claim 33, wherein when calculating the expected value, the computer is configured to automatically replace historical statistical outliers with normal values or a metric received during the sliding time window, and wherein the metric is defined by an operator.

36. (New) A computer system for managing data relating to the performance of an enterprise, the system comprising:

a memory storing historical business data comprising values of each of a plurality of metrics at a plurality of points in time; and

at least one computer configured to:

from one or more external sources, receive a continuous stream of event data for at least one of the metrics, wherein the event data is transmitted to the at least one computer independent of a request from the computer,

in response to each received event data, calculate with the computer an actual value for at least one metric based at least in part on the event data, wherein the actual value is calculated based on a sliding time window,

in response to each received event data, calculate with the computer an expected value for the at least one metric based on the historical business data. wherein the expected value is calculated based on the sliding time window.

37. (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising:

automatically generating a previously defined dimension of the metric;

automatically generating additional individual level metrics, without operator involvement where the individual level dimension has not been explicitly defined previously or by an operator;

automatically interpreting the new metric over time; and

automatically calculating an expected value